

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 19 with the following paragraph:

To obtain a semi-insulating layer 25, such as with a resistivity of more than about 107 Ohm.cm, by diffusion of iron 24 therein (Fig. 1E) from the transfer layer of InP 23, the assembled structure is placed in a sealed quartz tube at a high temperature (about 900°C), in a gas mixture composed of iron and phosphorus (preferably FeP₂). The pressure is typically several atmospheres. The diffusion period, which is essentially proportional to the thickness of the InP layer in which the diffusion is to be considered, is estimated to be about ten minutes for a thickness or the order of one micrometer. The preferred FeP₂ gas is preferably obtained from high purity iron powder and from red phosphorus in a molar ratio of 1:2. As shown in the drawings, substantially the entire transfer layer is rendered semi-insulating by the diffusion of the foreign atomic species, which is preferably diffused into the transfer layer over substantially its entire surface.